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ACTION SCT-03

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-01	FBIE-00	HA-09
	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	JUSE-00	L-03
	ADS-00	M-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIS-01
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00
	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	CORE-00

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O 032200Z SEP 93  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7466  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
☒ Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny ( ) Declassify  
Date 2/27/02 Exemption \_\_\_\_\_

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PTER, CJAN, PREL, NU, CS  
SUBJECT: DESPITE NEW LA PENCA EVIDENCE, COSTA RICAN  
PROSECUTORS CONTINUE TO WEAVE ELABORATE CONSPIRACY  
THEORIES

REF: SAN JOSE 6288 AND PREVIOUS

1. SAN JOSE DAILIES ON SEPTEMBER 3 REPORTED THAT

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GOCR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAVE MADE POSITIVE  
IDENTIFICATION OF THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE LA PENCA  
BOMBER SUSPECT, PER ANKER HANSEN, WITH THOSE OF  
ARGENTINE EPR TERRORIST VITAL ROBERTO GAGUINE.  
ALTHOUGH GOCR PUBLIC PROSECUTOR JOSE MARIA TIJERINO  
HAS PUBLICLY ACCEPTED THE MATCH-UP OF THE  
FINGERPRINTS, HE HAS ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT THERE  
HAS BEEN NO CONFIRMATION OF GAUGINE'S REPORTED DEATH  
IN A 1989 ATTACK ON THE LA TABLADA MILITARY BASE IN  
ARGENTINA.

2. CONSPIRACY THEORY: WITH THE IDENTITY QUESTION  
APPARENTLY SOLVED, THE COSTA RICAN PROSECUTORS  
CONTINUE TO SPECULATE ON WHO WAS BEHIND THE CRIME.  
ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, JORGE CHAVARRIA, THE  
PROSECUTOR IN THE LA PENCA CASE, WANTS TO WIDEN HIS  
SEARCH FOR THE MORAL AUTHORS OF THE BOMBING.  
CHAVARRIA CONCLUDES ON THE BASIS OF THE NEW EVIDENCE  
THAT GAGUINE WAS PROBABLY A DOUBLE OR EVEN TRIPLE  
AGENT, WORKING FOR BOTH THE SANDINISTAS AND THE CIA,

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BUT ALSO WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH MANUEL NORIEGA AND INDIRECTLY WITH THE MEDELLIN DRUG CARTEL. CHAVARRIA'S CONSPIRACY THEORY RESTS PRIMARILY ON THE FACT THAT GAUGINE LIVED IN PANAMA FOR TWO YEARS BEFORE THE 1985 BOMBING ATTACK. CHAVARRIA'S PRESUMPTION IS THAT NORIEGA WAS PROTECTING GAGUINE AND USING THE ARGENTINE TERRORIST FOR HIS OWN ENDS. CHAVARRIA STATED THAT ALL THE ABOVE PARTIES--THE SANDINISTAS, THE CIA AND THE MEDELLIN CARTEL--WERE INTERESTED IN SEEING PASTORA ELIMINATED AND THAT NORIEGA MANAGED TO SERVE EACH BY SENDING GAUGINE ON

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HIS DEADLY MISSION. CHAVARRIA ALSO REASSERTED HIS BELIEF THAT AMCIT JOHN HULL POSSESSED PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AND ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL CONTINUE HIS CASE AGAINST HULL AND MAINTAIN THE PENDING EXTRADITION REQUEST.

3. COMMENT: THE PUBLIC PROSECUTORS' ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINGERPRINT MATCH-UP IS AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THEIR EARLIER REJECTION OF THE FINGERPRINTS FROM PANAMA. HOWEVER, THEIR RELUCTANCE TO GIVE UP ON A CIA CONNECTION TO THE BOMBING IS AN ANNOYING REMINDER THAT THE CASE AND ITS ATTENDANT BAD PUBLICITY FOR THE U.S. WILL PROBABLY DRONE ALONG IN COSTA RICA FOR SOME TIME TO COME.

BECELIA

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\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\*

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